

# US wrecks INF Treaty: time for a European Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone!

The formal collapse of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty on Friday 2 August opens a dangerous new era for nuclear security in Europe. It is now essential that peace movements across Europe come together to discuss a response.

This is why the International Peace Bureau, Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, International TUC, INES, IPPNW and Abolition 2000 have called an international meeting, *Nuclear Security in Europe after the Collapse of the INF Treaty*, on 14 September in Brussels (see page 4 for further information).

This meeting will be an opportunity for a wide-ranging discussion about the current situation and how we might collectively respond on a

Europe-wide level.

One of the key elements of the discussion will be around the question of a European Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone. The call for such a zone is based on the reckoning that it seems unlikely that the INF Treaty will be reconstituted any time soon; that European states can be induced to move towards creating such a zone in defiance of the US by a mass, vibrant and coordinated European Peace Movement; that the US is set on a course of action that will further heighten nuclear tensions in Europe and more globally and that defiance of Trump's reckless strategy is an essential pre-requisite for securing common security.

Importantly, the call for a European

Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone does not contradict any of the other campaigning efforts already underway. Rather, such a call will reinforce and generalise these efforts in a specifically European context.

This is vital when the history of disarmament efforts demonstrates time-and-again that 'superpowers' rule.

We cannot allow America's efforts to resist and respond to the shift from a uni-polar to multi-polar world order to suck Europe into reckless and potentially deadly strategies, not least through NATO and other alliances.

Whether the new era will be defined as a 'New Cold War', 'Global Tinderbox' or a time when Europe breaks with US dominance is down to us, the European Peace Movements.

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## No More Hiroshima's

On 6 and 9 August 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki respectively.

The attack on Hiroshima was the first time an atomic weapon had been used. The blast and the fireball that followed killed an estimated 180,000 people. The attack on Nagasaki claimed a further 50,000-100,000 lives.

'Conventional wisdom' holds that these attacks were needed to halt Japanese aggression. In fact, the attacks were entirely unnecessary.

As nuclear tensions mount and the risks increase, efforts to expose the horrors of and eliminate nuclear weapons are as important as ever.



Human consequences: nuclear blast 'shadow' from Hiroshima

# US Announces New Missiles

The United States has announced plans to test a nuclear-capable intermediate-range missile in the coming weeks. The announcement was made one day after the final collapse of the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

The US and others have made a great deal of noise about claims that Russia was in contravention of the INF Treaty, specifically in respect of missile development. Russia consistently denied that it was in contravention and levelled its own claims against the US, claims which the US itself denied. These claims were analysed by Katarzyna Kubiak (see *The Spokesman* 142).

Unsurprisingly, NATO backed the US claims and blamed Russia for the collapse of the Treaty. But at the same time NATO has been clear that no nuclear-capable intermediate-range

missiles should be deployed in Europe. How long will this position hold?

According to the US itself, the missiles stationed in Poland and Romania that form part of a 'missile defence' network can be adapted. The US insists that the missiles were not in contravention of the INF, insists these missiles are not of intermediate-range but admits that adaptation is possible.

How willing might certain governments be, especially those with unhealthy relations with Russia and sympathies with Trump's White House, to hold the current NATO line in defiance of Washington?

The announced tests are part of US attempts to ratchet up tensions with both Russia and China. The US has floated the idea of reconstituting the INF Treaty with China as the third signatory. Such suggestions seem set to fall flat given the military and economic aggression already deployed against China and that country's security concerns.



**Peggy Duff**

**New Title: Left, Left, Left**  
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Peggy Duff was the first General Secretary of CND and a life-long campaigner for peace.  
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# JCPOA Update

The Joint Commission of the JCPOA had a further meeting on 28 July at the request of France, Germany, the UK and Iran. The meeting was called to discuss the "full and effective implementation of the JCPOA in all its aspects."

Since the Joint Commission met earlier in July, the US has further increased tensions and threats not least through the maintenance of sanctions and the introduction of new sanctions.

The ongoing tensions around the capture of oil tankers has provided further cause for concern.

Despite these problems, the Joint Commission was able to issue a statement that held tightly to the thrust of previous statements. That is, that the remaining participants in the JCPOA process are committed to preserving the agreement.

Further, they continue to agree that "both nuclear commitments and sanctions-lifting are essential".

# Global NATO?

US Vice Admiral Michael Gilday, Director of the Joint Staff, has demanded that the United States' allies take on most of the work of the 'international maritime security framework'. His comments were in specific relation to the ongoing question of tanker security.

This demand came after France, Germany and the UK expressed reservations about joining US efforts against Iran as they all continue to adhere to JCPOA requirements.

The US appears to be using the tanker issue as a lever to force NATO members to step-up coordinated military operations in the Iran region. It looks like an attempt to globalise NATO operations. This would be an extraordinarily significant and dangerous development.

Will France, Germany and the UK resist? Not without sustained and focussed opposition in Europe!





# Cease and Desist

Eleven international peace activists entered the Büchel Air Base southwest of Frankfurt on 11 July to deliver what they called a “Treaty Enforcement Order” declaring that the sharing of

were released after providing identification. This is the third year in a row that a delegation of US peace activists has joined Europeans and others in protesting the US nuclear weapons at Büchel.

“Delivery of the ‘Cease and Desist Order’ is an act of crime prevention,” said John LaForge, of the US peace



US nuclear weapons at the base is a “criminal conspiracy to commit war crimes.”

Upon entering the base’s main gate with a printed “cease and desist order,” they insisted on seeing the base commander to deliver the order in person.

The group included people from Germany, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. All eleven were detained by military and civilian authorities and

group Nukewatch and coordinator of the US delegation. “The authorities think the entry is a matter of trespass. But these nuclear bomb threats violate the UN Charter, the Treaty on Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.” he said, adding, “Interrupting government criminality is a duty of responsible citizenship.”

[source: Voices for Creative Non-Violence]

# Not so secret

It is no secret that the United States stores some of its nuclear weapons in Europe. The location of these nuclear weapons is ‘officially secret’, although the truth of the matter has long been common knowledge amongst anti-nuclear campaigners.

Now NATO has inadvertently confirmed what we always knew: the precise locations of US weapons of mass destruction on European soil. “These bombs are stored at six US and European bases - Kleine Brogel in Belgium, Büchel in Germany, Aviano

and Ghedi-Torre in Italy, Volkel in The Netherlands, and Incirlik in Turkey” read one line from a document posted on NATO’s website, titled ‘A new era for nuclear deterrence? Modernisation, arms control and allied nuclear forces’. This information has now been removed from the current issue of this document available on the NATO website.

Europe is already a staging post for US nuclear aggression and together with the nuclear forces possessed by the UK and France a major threat is posed to peace, security and the future of life itself. It’s high-time they were removed from Europe for good.

# Russia Study Trip

The Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space recently organised a meeting in Moscow followed by a study tour of Crimea.

The Global Network is an important international grouping that has been at the forefront of recent efforts to expose and campaign against Donald Trump’s ‘Space Force’.

The study group consisted of people from the US, Nepal, Ukraine and UK. They met with Russian journalists, activists and academics. Their aim was to build bridges of friendship and understanding at the citizen level.

In the context of rising tensions, accusation and counter-accusation, rampant militarism and growing threats, such efforts are an essential component of the global effort to ‘make space for peace’.

See <http://www.space4peace.org> for more information.

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**New Title: A German translation of Cmdr Robert Green’s Security without Nuclear Deterrence will be available soon. Contact END Info if you would like to purchase a copy and look out for news of the German launch event.**

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**SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2019**

11:00 A.M. - 17:00 P.M.

## International Meeting: *Nuclear Security in Europe after Collapse of the INF Treaty*

DE MARKTEN, OUDE GRAANMARKT 5,  
1000 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

### EVENT PROGRAM

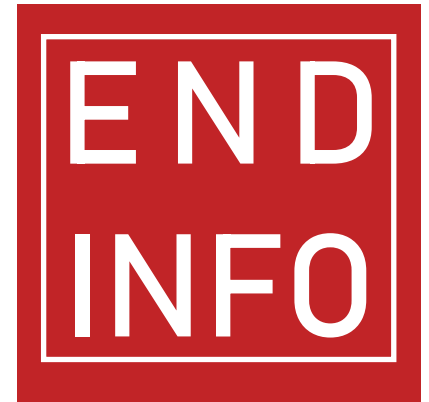
<b>11:00 AM - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>WELCOME</b> Pieter Teierlinck ( <i>Belgian coalition against nuclear weapons</i> ) Reiner Braun ( <i>International Peace Bureau</i> )
<b>11:15 AM - 11:35 AM</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b> <i>Where do we stand? "Peace is in danger, nuclear war is possible."</i>  Ludo de Brabander
<b>11:35 AM - 14:00 PM</b>	<b>INPUT COMMENTARIES</b> Jeroen Beirnaert ( <i>ITUC</i> ) Tom Unterrainer ( <i>Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation</i> ) Arielle Denis ( <i>IPB &amp; ICAN</i> ) Angelika Claussen ( <i>IPPNW</i> )
<b>12:00 PM - 13:30 PM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
<b>13:30 PM - 14:30 PM</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
<b>14:30 PM - 15:00 PM</b>	<b>WHAT TO DO?</b> <i>Actions and campaigns on the European/International level</i>  Dave Webb ( <i>Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, GB</i> ) Dominique Lalaine ( <i>ICAN, France</i> ) Marion K�pkers ( <i>Atomwaffen Abschaffen, Germany</i> )
<b>15:00 PM - 16:00 PM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
<b>16:00 PM - 17:00 PM</b>	<b>CONCLUSION AND AGREEMENTS</b> Moderation by Tom Unterrainer & Reiner Braun

*If you are interested in attending, please send a note to [info@ipb-office.berlin](mailto:info@ipb-office.berlin)  
Feel free to share this invitation!*

## European Nuclear Disarmament: *A New Statement*

Endorse here:

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